



Faithless

Julie Johnson

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She was always meant to meet him... he was never supposed to love her.

After twenty years in the same small town, Faith Morrissey throws caution to the wind and books herself a one-way ticket to Europe. She's not sure what to expect from her year-long study abroad trip, but she wants — needs — something different. Something exciting. Something that sets her soul on fire and makes her heart pound a bit too fast inside her chest.

Enter: him

Dark-eyed, dangerous, and utterly irresistible. One look at Wes, and she's a goner — despite all the warning signs that tell her he's trouble. The more time they spend together, the more apparent it becomes that he's keeping secrets. Secrets that could jeopardize not only their future together... but their very lives.

When the truth about Wes finally comes to light, Faith will be forced to decide: what do you do if the love of your life is living a lie?

*FAITHLESS is a steamy, standalone second-chance romance. Due to strong language, suspenseful elements, and graphic sexual encounters, it is intended for readers ages 16 and up. ** PLEASE BE ADVISED: this is the second edition of this novel. It was originally published as "Erasing Faith" in 2014. ***

Faithless Details

Date : Published 2017 (first published December 3rd 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Julie Johnson

Format : ebook 360 pages

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Contemporary, Suspense, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance

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From Reader Review Faithless for online ebook

R says

Another large round of applause to Miss Julie Johnson. This is my third Julie Johnson book and I was just as eager to read this as I was the others! I got *Erasing Faith* as an ARC and I was so excited to start it that I definitely skipped out on some of the Thanksgiving festivities to sneak away and get some reading in!

I have never been one to like those reviews that explain half the book before you've even read it, and lord knows I don't have the patience to find the millions of perfect quotes and gifs to demonstrate how awesome it was, but believe me when I say *Erasing Faith* was awesome. I don't want to share too much because I feel like the whole book is one huge spoiler - one of the perils of a now/then story line. *Erasing Faith* tells the story of Faith Morrissey/Fae Mongomery (introduced in *Say the Word*) and Wes Abbot. The story starts in Budapest, and while I have never visited, there was so much detail and flavor packed in that I felt like I was following Faith around as she went on her adventure to find herself. As the story progressed with the dual perspectives I loved the chance to peek inside, not only Faith's mind, but Wes' as well and I really grew to love him, despite all the walls and distance. I will also say that Wow! I did not see that ending coming!

All and all a big thumbs up and absolutely worth a read. The perfect balance between sexy-times, laughing-times, aw-times, and "omg-just-be-honest"-angst-times!

FMABookReviews says

★★★★ 1/2 Unconditional Stars

I LOVE this author. I love her writing, her voice, her tone, her characters, everything! I have read every book she's written and after each, I can't wait for the next. And as with all the others, this is a stand-alone romantic suspense. She is a brilliant story teller, who doesn't add unnecessary fluff to her stories. She excellently executed a dual POV between Wes and Faith. Writing a believable male character.

Her characters take journey's of self-exploration. They may start the story damaged, but they end with understanding and growth. While New Adult romances are not my first choice of reads, I find that I don't mind reading NA if it's written by Ms. Johnson. If she writes it, I will read it.

Erasing Faith is no exception. Our Hero had been on his own since childhood and as a result had not felt love, let alone had the ability to share it. But when Faith stepped into his life, she broke through the barriers and the walls he had encased around his heart. She didn't give up on him and she forced him to see not only what they could have together, but also that he deserved to have it. No matter how hard he pushed her away, she pushed back, accepting, caring and loving.

She vexed him, intrigued and confused him. He intrigued her and swept her off her feet as any fairy tale

prince would.

“This wasn’t just our first kiss. It was my first real kiss. Ever.”

Together they were a mix of soft and hard, innocent and cunning, and when their love is challenged the question before them is, is love enough?

“But did you ever stop to think that even if I am a monster... I might still be your soulmate, anyway?”

I loved this story, this romance and these characters. Again, Julie Johnson put a smile on face and has me anxiously waiting for her next book!

Donna ~ The Romance Cover says

4.5 stars!! This book was so beautifully written, it was a joy to read. I loved the suspense and drama and the chemistry between the two leading protagonists had me hot and melting. Was a fantastic read and I loved the setting, the country was brought to life through cleverly crafted words and scenes. (full review to come)

?ι??ισρ?ι?ια {?ιηg???? & ?ø??η fσ??v??} says

....

This *consumed* me, what a fabulous way to kick off 2015. All fans of hot and intense, NA reads need to read this.

Erika says

2.5 stars

I am not going to do a long review for this because I think my problems with this book are just me, and aren't things that would bother others!! But to sum up why I didn't enjoy this:

--hero does the push/pull thing with the heroine up until 70% and I guess I wasn't in the mood for that

--hero realizes multiple times that he is risking the heroine's life by how he is using her, and he just continues on, for his job. Guess I wasn't in the mood for that stuff either! lol.

--what heroine does after finding out the truth about the hero didn't sit well with me. She does something very extreme and for someone who has a loving family, it just didn't work for me. Felt very immature and selfish. Andguess that didn't fit my mood. :-/

To be clear, this book would almost certainly please others. I have been in a huge mental funk when it comes to romance storylines lately. :-(One good thing: there are no OW, so ...yay!! That is hard to find these days so i appreciated that.

Anna says

“It might’ve started as a lie, Faith, but it sure as hell didn’t end as one. I might not have been real to you, and that’s fine. But you have to know… you were real to me.” His voice dropped so low, I could barely hear him. “It was real for me. It’s still real. The realest fucking thing I’ve ever felt.”

Katerina says

“Wes and Faith.
Faith and Wes.
We were doomed from the start. A lost cause. A losing battle.
And yet, in that narrow instant, I didn’t give a single fuck.”

Dear Julie Johnson,

I have to state it once more (I'm even considering a tattoo or a graffiti or writing a sonnet)

Once upon a time, there was a girl full of **light** and love. Her heart was pure as the morning sky, she was honest and innocent and real, the entire concept of deception and lies was strange to her. She put faith in everything and everyone.

Once upon a time, there was a boy full of **darkness**. His heart was empty, he had never experienced love or longing, there was never a person in his life that made him feel needed, that made him want to be better. He had no home and no hope, he was lonely and devoid of anything real.

Their story was not a fairytale.

“When it came to loving Wes, pleasure and pain were always wrapped up in one. We hurt each other; we healed each other. Screamed and seduced, built and broke each other.
It wasn’t a normal kind of love.

It was unsafe. Undeniable. Unhealthy. Unforgettable.
It was a contradiction."

It's midnight here, and I am trying very hard to turn my thoughts into coherent sentences, that will show even a glimpse of my emotional state after reading Erasing Faith. I have to be honest, I didn't expect to love Wes. After Say the Word, I thought it was my duty to take Fae's side and hold a grudge against the stranger who forced her to change her life and her attitude towards life. But page after page, chapter after chapter I fell deeply in love with them, with the fearsome CIA agent and his kind and passionate target.

"Maybe you are right, Red. Maybe I am hateful. Maybe I ruined your life. Maybe I'm the devil, and the worst thing that ever happened to you, and a million other awful things. But did you ever stop to think that even if I am a monster, I might be your soulmate anyway?"

Entwined with **suspense** and **action**, Erasing Faith was a **sweet story of forgiveness**, of **hated and love** as the two sides of the same coin, a story about **light and darkness**. I kept admiring Faith for her strength and patience, for her unconditional devotion to Wes, for seeing something good in him worth saving even though he didn't want to. It was really smart of Julie Johnson to use dual POV so that we could witness the struggle in both of them, their angst and their reasoning. There was something **poetic** about Wes, he was the tormented hero but he inflicted pain at the same time. He was gasping for breath and that terrified him.

First Finn, then Bash, and now Wes. Yeap, I'm officially ruined.

Well done Julie Johnson, well done!

PS Lux's appearance practically left me squealing!!

EgyptDiva says

So I'm gonna make this short and sweet.

I really enjoyed this one more than I thought I would! It was the romantic read that I needed to break my bad luck in books. I enjoy those types of stories where the hero is undercover so It really just worked for me and I will be reading more of this author !

Ashleyjo says

Strike One

Too many *meaningful* eye actions. This is from a SINGLE Interaction, and just what his eyes are doing... Doesn't even include her own damn eye actions:

"... his eyes flashed with a dark emotion I couldn't quite put my finger on.

"...promise in his dark eyes..."

"...his eyes flashing.."

"could almost feel those intense eyes watching my mouth..."

"...his dark eyes warm on mine..."

"His eyes were still too serious as they stared into mine."

"His dark eyes trapped my skittish ones."

Hey, authors, there's nothing wrong with letting eyes *tell your story* in **small** increments, but when eyes, facial features, and mouth expressions start *saying* more than your character's POV, you might want to start painting vs writing!

Strike Two

I'm bored. I've read 16% & you've given me NOTHING of interest other than the MCs briefly meeting twice. Wtf?!?

The pacing here is torture. The excess info and sentence fluffing could be the new solution for insomnia.

The author pads nearly every sentence with excess words... Nearly every paragraph with unnecessary sentences and useless, superfluous info... And every chapter with whole paragraphs that mean, add absolutely nothing to the story.

Here's what I mean:

There was a buffet table of appetizers on the left where, thankfully, most of the crowd had gathered. A makeshift bar had been set up on the right. I beelined for it, and not five minutes later, I had a complementary glass of cheap, boxed wine clutched tightly in one hand - in the nick of time, too, because a bubbly woman with a brunette bob straight out of the 1950s had

just grabbed an electronic megaphone and stepped up onto a stool to address the crowd.

"Good evening, everyone! I'm Linda!" Her voice boomed at such a high decibel, the mic let out a piercing shriek that probably set every dog in a ten-mile radius on high alert. I rubbed at my ringing ears and took a large sip of wine from my plastic glass. It tasted horrible, but I was pretty sure if I drank enough of it, the night might become a fraction more tolerable.

"Sorry, sorry! the woman blathered into the bullhorn. "Still getting the hang of this thing!"

Her amplified giggles made me want to hurl myself into the lake.

On and on this goes for six pages just to SET UP for a speed dating scene. Another handful of pages in horrible speed dates with random people. Finally, the MCs exchange a few sentences. But, hell no, we still can't get on with anything of moment because he has to have a handful of pages for an inner diatribe about his own fucking name.

Come on!

Strike Three

Nonsensical shit.

When I'd opened my mouth to reveal my name, the cover I'd carefully rehearsed hadn't come out.....

So I said Wesley Adams. Wesley. Fucking. Adams. Might as well have blown the whole fucking mission wide open and told her my real name. *Hi, I'm Weston Abbott, the CIA operative attempting to infiltrate your life. Wanna grab a coffee?*

I was such a fucking idiot. I could've tried to justify it - could've told myself I'd only chosen a name similar to my own because it would be easier to remember....

But that was all bullshit. I'd changed my cover at the last second for one reason only: because when I finally heard Faith Morrissey say my name I didn't want it to be a lie.

Wtf are you talking about, dude?

1. How is the name Wesley Adams anywhere akin to the name Weston Abbot?
2. When she says your name, your goal was ... "I didn't want it to be a lie." How is her saying a fake name,

which **you** find similar to your own but that's **still not your name**, equal to being *your name*?? she's saying?!?! Nonsensical shit, I tell ya, nonsensical!

Bonus: I'd add that this mfer, who hasn't done much beyond gripe and whine me a river, sounds about as much like a CIA operative as Kanye West would. Just saying~

Summary

DNF @ 19% due to:

- Slow pacing and padded writing style
- Too much fluff
- Too much nonsense
- Too much inner rambling and nonverbal writing cues.
- Too little of actual substance

Jenny - **TotallybookedBlog** says

4.5 SOLID STARS - Had to round it up to 5 - loved it!

'With every muscle she moved, every touch of her hands, every brush of her body against mine, I felt myself sink further into her depths.'

From the very start of this book, I began to experience those excited little book flutters and knew I was going to love Erasing Faith after being captivated by Julie Johnson's expressively beautiful prose. This author sure does have a way with words and uses them in such a beautifully intoxicating and hypnotic way. Her words were like a seductive temptress: luring me in and never letting me go. I felt as though I wanted to pause life until the last page had been turned as Julie Johnson's words held me captive.

'I'm not your prince, Red. The dark knight, maybe. But don't confuse me for the valiant hero.'

The sinister atmospheric feel of the prologue set the scene for down the track, leaving me with a mixture of excitement, anticipation and dread stirring in me as I wondered how the story was going to unfold and bring us to that point in the prologue.

'Monsters aren't all tentacles and teeth. Sometimes, they're far less obvious – wrapped up in charm and charisma, cloaked behind secrets and seduction'

The story held me spellbound during the suspense, the charming and witty banter between our two main characters put a smile on my face, the sexual chemistry sizzled and the mystery and secrets that abound throughout Erasing Faith kept me glued to my Kindle.

'He was a man lost in shadows.'

Faith embarks on a journey to study abroad in Budapest in a quest discover who she is. Although coming from a large family, Faith is a bit of a loner and seems to revel in the life of the carefree traveller working for a courier firm whilst studying History in Budapest.

An accidental meeting with Wes, a handsome stranger stirs feelings in Faith as she feels an instant attraction to him. As they spend time together Faith feels a connection to Wes...it's as though this guy 'gets her'. Faith believes their meeting was fate but was it fate or a calculated move on Wes's part?

'I'd wonder late, after it all fell apart...if I'd known how it would turn out, would I have ripped that plane ticket into pieces? Would I have stayed in my life....and chosen never to meet the man who'd splinter my world – and my heart – into fragments.'

Told in alternate POV I was afforded an insight into Wes's motives and Faith's naivety as their relationship progresses. Wes struggles internally between his feelings for this refreshingly effervescent and beautiful girl who appears so pure and so honest, intelligent and fierce, against his loyalty and commitment to the task at hand.

'Her beauty was elemental. It radiated from beneath her skin, painted her in color against a grayscale world.'

Just who is Wes and why is he so interested in Faith? All was revealed as Julie Johnson took me through the streets of Budapest on a vividly descriptive journey, that had me breathing in every moment of Wes and Faith's story as I uncovered the truth behind the solitary and mysterious Wes, and the discovery of what Faith had unwittingly walked into. I don't want to give anything away so I'll leave it up to you to find what mystery is afoot.

'This, right here, with my mouth pressed against hers, was the safest I'd felt in years.'

This standalone had it all. Suspense, mystery, intrigue, romance, humour and passion, together with characters full of spark, all beautifully woven together by an author who really did caress me with her words, not to mention a book boyfriend to swoon over! The only reason this wasn't a solid 5 star for me is because the second part felt a little rushed and I would have loved a little more 'afters' with Wes and Faith . A definite recommend without a doubt!

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Gina *loves sunshine* says

Funny thing, I am not sure how this ended up on my TBR!?!? I still can't figure it out. I have never read this author...that I can tell. None of my GR friends have it marked? not sure? But, while browsing my online library wish list looking for a new audio to read - I basically clicked on this because the narrators are Sebastian York and Andi Arndt - the best narrator duo in the business!! And it did not disappoint!

I loved that the characters and the story hit me immediately, loved the dual POV. Wes and Faith were easy to love, easy to connect with, easy to feel the heartbreak with!! It had a touch of thriller, a touch of family, a touch of travel and lots of firing connections!! An all around great read! 4 stars!

Julie Johnson says

★★ NEW LOOK, NEW PRICE. ★★

AMAZON → <http://amzn.to/2yg5mkE>

iBOOKS → <http://apple.co/2gPuu6H>

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"He's the love of her life... but his life is a lie."

FAITHLESS is a sexy, standalone, second-chance romance from internationally bestselling author Julie Johnson.

Celestine says

Talk Nerdy to Me

This would make a great title for a book, but in *Faithless* by Julie Johnson it is the title of a chapter and the reason super spy Wes falls for his mark in a sting he is developing to capture an international arms dealer. In a set up to "meet" bicycle courier and college student Faith, Wes trips her and her resultant nervous babbling completely disarms and charms the young but jaded CIA agent.

Before you know it, the mark becomes something more. More than Wes can handle. More than he wants her to mean. More than is safe for her given the parameters of his mission.

Faith's openness and happy, guileless life are anathema to Wes. She fascinates him. And he hates himself for what he did to her before he even knew her. His treachery plays with his emotions, his confidence and his loyalties. Because he can't reconcile who he is day to day and with Faith, there is a bit of Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde going on.

"Wes' grin fell off his face so abruptly, I worried he'd suffered some kind of mental breakdown. Something dark flashed in his eyes as he stared at my face."

"She blew up my life. I hated her for it. But not as much as I loved her."

Of course, involving a super spy with a sweet innocent isn't going to end well. But Faith has changed Wes and he learns that he no longer wants to be Faith-less.

Rachel says

[No (hide spoiler)]

TeriLyn says

***Erasing Faith* generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.**

5++ Contradictory Love Stars

Each and every time Julie Johnson announces she's writing a new story I do a little happy dance. This author possesses such a gift of storytelling. Each story she pens vividly represents two characters each on a journey of self-discovery whom find out what it's like to love, lose, and forgive their soul mate. *Erasing Faith* explores the vitality of fate while questioning its very essence. It's a contradiction of sorts fitting perfectly between the lines of the excellently written, descriptive prose composing the story of Faith Morrissey and Weston Abbott – whose very relationship just so happens to be a contradiction.

Choosing to write from the points of view of both, Faith & Wes, Julie Johnson depicts a tale reading as a fond memory of a period of time in both their lives when worlds collided so forcefully they both were knocked off their own axis. What I love about Julie's writing are the details she provides to make you so in tune with her characters, details never overwhelming but perfectly placed to embrace the intensity or levity of the action. Ms. Johnson interprets events to the reader with such accuracy her words read like a movie scene playing out in front of your eyes.

Erasing Faith represents a love story full of mystery at the beginning with details revealing themselves throughout, subtle clues being left in every chapter, and in typical Julie Johnson fashion a perfectly placed element of surprise. The passion restrains itself from the overly graphic yet is written with such finesse you feel the connection between Faith & Wes intimately. And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the high quality snark and banter Julie Johnson writes. Her subdued jokes and dry humor laced in the banter between these two characters makes you laugh out loud. There's nothing better than two intelligent characters engaging in an intelligent game of word play.

Wes and Faith equally possess qualities you'll love and a few that you won't. They make mistakes, they are stubborn, they make choices affecting the rest of their lives, and they're both figuring out who they are with the other infiltrating their life. The beauty of Wes and Faith stems from what they're hiding from, how they

fight against it, and ultimately the way in which they redeem themselves. It's Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf for certain circling each other trying to find their place.

Although we meet Faith as Fae in *Say the Word*, *Erasing Faith* most definitely reads as a standalone novel. Just another quality of Ms. Johnson's books I adore. It's hard finding a good standalone book these days in the land of cliffhangers and trilogies. This author wraps her stories in neat packages leaving the reader fully satisfied with the structure of what they just consumed.

There hasn't been a single sentence I've read in the three books published by Julie Johnson that felt out of place. This woman knows how to write great New Adult stories. It's been an absolute pleasure following this author on her writing journey. With the release of *Erasing Faith* I'm reminded yet again why I drop everything to read a Julie Johnson book. And just like its predecessors, I could immediately go right back to chapter one and start all over again.

If you're a fan of New Adult Romance, please don't skip over Julie Johnson's titles she possesses a great gift for her craft that will consume you as a reader.

Favorite Quote:

"We hit like opposing air fronts. Clashed like hot and cold. Two total contradictions – a high-pressure system and its low-pressure polar opposite – converged and created a massive atmospheric disturbance. A lightning strike."

You should most definitely read all of Julie's books. Check out my 5 star reviews for her other novels:

Like Gravity

Say the Word
